

SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

Editorial Opinions of the Leading Journals upon Current Topics—Compiled Every Day for the Evening Telegraph.

KING YOUNG.

The Mormon platform fairly sketched by the highest authority is not by any means a new thing. In fact, the most remarkable feature about the demands of the community at Salt Lake is their uniformity. "Liberty, freedom, and equal rights" is Brigham Young's comprehensive though somewhat pleonastic mode of summarizing them—a preface, however, which scarcely does justice to the proposals with which the speaker follows it up. On the occasion of the recent pioneer celebration at Salt Lake City, the Mormon President made an address of which it may be said that its statement of general principles is perfectly unexceptionable, while its enunciation of details is exceedingly open to question.

It is characterized throughout by the same odd mixture of shrewd common sense, blatant bragadocio, and open, undisguised contempt for the authority under which he lives, which distinguish most of the public utterances of the remarkable man who is the present autocrat of Mormonland. The spokesman of the Latter-day Saints skillfully puts in the foreground of his declaration a reference to the unbroken integrity and triumphs which his followers have achieved in the Salt Lake Valley. In claiming for them the privilege of continuing their work of making their desert bloom as the rose, and of elevating the outcast and the destitute, Brigham Young must have known very well that he was demanding a right which nobody has ever questioned; but in asking Congress to pass an impossible law before consenting to obey a law already in existence, he must have been equally aware that he was violating one of the first principles of an organized State.

Were the Government of the United States to decree, as the Mormon apostle desires, "that every man that is capable of taking care of himself shall marry a wife," it might indeed earn the gratitude of universal spinsterhood, but it would transcend its functions as completely as its accuser does, by giving every man the liberty of marrying as many wives as he pleases. Brigham Young may honestly believe that polygamy is the one sovereign specific for the evils of society, but the Government under which he lives has enacted certain statutes with which this means of reform is perfectly incompatible, and so long as he and his followers choose to continue citizens of this republic, they must recognize the fact that obedience is the first law of civilized communities.

An equally dangerous development of Mormonism appears in the Prophet's reference to the mode of conducting popular elections. He says in effect, I hold myself the supreme judge of who are and who are not fit to hold office in your courts and local boards. I do not presume to dictate whom you shall choose, but I shall certainly see that you select no one who is not acceptable to me. This attitude of the Mormon leaders, and the disposition that comes from it on the part of their followers to vote as one man, have already been productive of civil broils in Iowa and Missouri, and will be so again the moment that they are surrounded by a Gentile community numerous enough to have their liberty imperilled by tactics so foreign to our free institutions. The Mormonism of Salt Lake is in its political aspect the unchanged Mormonism of Nauvoo—it is a despotism growing up in the midst of a free State, an autocracy confronting a society where the will of the people is supreme. A strong personal government may be a desirable thing, enough for certain stages of social growth, but in the United States it is an anachronism and a social anomaly. Even so acute a thinker as Carlyle was betrayed into premature admiration of the wonderful social order established by the Jesuit missionaries among the Indian races of Paraguay, just as other thinkers rather less acute have seen nothing but what is admirable in the civilization of Salt Lake. We have never seen a historical reproduction of the unlimited and helpless state of submission to which the Paraguayans were reduced in their becoming the dupes of a tyrant like Lopez, and an unchecked development of the principles of Mormon absolutism would infallibly pave the way for an unprincipled and reckless adventurer, who would prepare for us another heritage of civil strife and long-enduring hatred.

THE AMERICANS IN PARIS.

The "American colony" in Paris, which ordinarily numbers forty or fifty thousand persons, has been rapidly diminishing in the departure of its members for safer and pleasanter regions. Probably one-third of them have fled to England, Switzerland, Belgium, Italy, and this country, since the beginning of the present month, and it is likely that the remainder will now disappear as quickly as possible. The mighty German army is daily approaching Paris nearer and nearer, to assault or besiege, as circumstances may render one or the other necessary; and the perils from the enemy without, as well as from the revolutionary elements within, must render that city the least attractive, as heretofore it has been considered the most attractive, place of residence in Europe. The military rigors of Trochu and the Defense Committee must also have made Paris particularly disagreeable for Americans. All foreigners are under the closest surveillance by the authorities, and all are in constant peril from the suspicion and excitement of the populace. Quite a number of Americans have been under arrest as German spies, and it has been found a difficult matter to secure their release. Several have been assaulted on the streets by mobs which abused them of being Germans; and there have been cases in which suspected or assailed persons found it impossible to obtain either protection or redress.

But if there are Americans wishing to remain in Paris even under these disadvantageous circumstances, we imagine that they will all be anxious to clear out, now that there is a prospect of the enforcement of the "Safety Law" of 1832. A few days ago the *Liberty* published quotations from this law, by which it appeared that, in case of siege, all foreign residents of Paris are liable to be called upon to serve in the "National Home Guard." There will doubtless be many anxious applications at the American Legation for protection against the enforcement of this law; but we doubt if Minister Washburne can give the applicants any better advice than to get out of Paris with all convenient speed. Even to get away they are compelled to obtain passports from the military authorities, but it will be better for them to take this trouble than to run the risks of continued residence in Paris. It

would certainly be a very disagreeable thing for the pleasure-seeking Americans in Paris to be compelled to take any part in its defense under present circumstances. The military government of the city have announced that it will be defended to the last extremity (which all may believe who choose); and Americans, as well as other foreigners who may be reduced to service in the "Home Guard," will be in danger of being sent forward to the ramparts to confront the triumphant army of the Crown Prince. Minister Washburne might enter his protest, and our Government would not fail in its duty; but what, in the mean time, might befall the unhappy victims of the Home Guard?

CABLE DESPATCHES—NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE VS. NEWSPAPER TRICKERY. From the N. Y. Herald. Nearly all our daily city journals are receiving more or less, according to their financial capabilities, cable despatches touching the movements and developments in Europe from day to day, military and political, connected with this gigantic war between France and the allied German States. Of these despatches the *Herald* specialises as records of facts, we may say, without injustice to our contemporaries, are more nearly correct and more comprehensive than any others, because we have spared no labor or expense to make them so. The rules of the Associated Press, of which the *Herald* is a member, require that the private news despatches of every journal concerned shall be shared among its colleagues; and that every such despatch when received "shall be immediately handed over to the agent of the association to be copied and delivered to the several papers of the association in the same manner as other telegraphic news is delivered."

We have always held this to be an unwise rule—a check upon individual enterprise and an advantage only to the negligent, the incompetent and the slow coaches of the association, in sharing equally the fruits of the labor of collecting telegraphic news, which has chiefly fallen upon the *Herald*. Having been forced to accept the rule, we have faithfully complied with its conditions, carefully avoiding any evasion, hedging or double-dealing. Not so is it with that model of all the virtues and all proprieties, the *Tribune*. That journal, on the contrary, since the commencement of this European war, has deliberately evaded and violated this law. It has appropriated to itself, under the weak devices of every journal concerned shall be shared among its colleagues, and that every such despatch when received "shall be immediately handed over to the agent of the association to be copied and delivered to the several papers of the association in the same manner as other telegraphic news is delivered."

We have thus been robbed in the dishonest perversion of a rule of our association which requires that if any part of a despatch to any member of the league, if even a word of it is used by any other member, the payment therefor shall be the proportion that should be required for the whole despatch. There is another rule of the association under which special despatches that are received by any member after one o'clock A. M. shall be sent to the office of the Associated Press instead of being sent to the paper to which they are addressed, in order that they may be promptly copied and distributed to the several papers concerned. To avoid this rule or law of the association the *Tribune* has had its despatches, likely to come in after the hour designated, addressed to one of its subordinates as an "outsider," a trick which neatly cuts off the association from such despatches until it is convenient for the *Tribune* to furnish them to colleagues "just in time to be too late" for its publication in their morning edition, unless in a mutilated form, but still in time to exact from them their full proportion of the costs. Now, as John Randolph said once to have remarked in Congress, referring to certain individuals of the Barnum school, "These men may be very smart, and this, Mr. Speaker, may be called Yankee enterprise and Yankee shrewdness; but, sir, according to our old-fashioned notions, it is Yankee trickery and Yankee swindling."

WHAT PERSONAL GOVERNMENT HAS COME TO.

In the days when personal government was in better odor than it has been of late, those who found fault with it were sure to be put down by one uniform and, as it was supposed, crushing answer. At all events, it was said, it secures that strong, composed, self-controlled executive which in time of war contributes so greatly to the safety of the State. There can be no divided counsels where one man is absolute master, no haste or confusion where the inception and the completion of every design are vested in the same hand. Under a Parliamentary Government a reverse of fortune at once brings with it confusion and every evil work. The nation has a right to be consulted at every step, and the consequence usually is that no step at all is taken. The action of Parliament dwindles down into a profligate series of recriminations. Unavoidable defeat is as fatal to a general as open treachery or proved incompetence. Political considerations intervene at every stage, and the movements of armies may in reality be directed against the opposition rather than against the enemy. In peace, constitutional government may make a fair show; you must wait for a great war before you can accurately appraise its merits as compared with those of the rival system. To-day the test we were told to look for is being exhibited in actual working. The Emperor of the French entered upon the war with Prussia with the Imperial system completely re-established. He had conquered or ejected the leading politicians of the Liberal party. He had got rid of Count Diers, and made the pleasant acquaintance of M. Ollivier. Thus all the promised virtues of promptitude, decision, and unity had the field left open for their exhibition. Under the guidance of an absolute dictator, France was to advance to the supreme effort which she has so long been anticipating and making ready for. The experiment has been made, and we see the results of it. Every fault attributed to parliamentary government has been shown to be proved in the double measure under the personal government. A defeat in the field has been sufficient to bring about a political reverse far more serious than there is anything in the military situation to justify. One wing of the French army is beaten by superior forces, leaving large bodies of troops absolutely untouched, and every French fortress as yet unassailed. Such a trick of fortune at the opening of a great campaign is not without parallel, and there is nothing so far as is yet known, to destroy the Emperor's hopes of rallying his forces and effecting the

By republishing Prince Frederik Charles. But to do this he should have a mind at ease and full liberty to lay his plans with no reservation to meet contingencies of a non-military kind. What chance has he of either? The news from Paris must sound as ominous in his ears as the news from the front. If the one may mean disaster to his arms, the other may mean ruin to his dynasty. The very means by which the former may be averted are laden with danger to the latter. If he chooses his generals with regard to the politics they profess, he runs the risk of their victories being won in other interests than his. If he calls upon every Frenchman to bear his part in the defense of the country, he cannot foresee the use to which the arms he gives them will be turned. The defeat of Sedan was in part owing to the necessity of doing something to wipe out the discredit of Wissemburg; and the victory which shall wipe out the discredit of Woerth and Forbach may cost him more than the defeats themselves.

The Emperor can now see enacted in his own lifetime the events which would in any case have followed upon his death. The object of his reign has been to build up a strong government, under shelter of which the succession should quietly pass to his son. In such respects Paris seems agreed to act as though the grave had already closed upon him. If he had died a month ago it is to the Ministry which has just resigned that he would have bequeathed the care of his dynasty; and, from their conduct under the depression of one or two lost battles, he may judge of their capacities for such a trust. He must sometimes have questioned with himself what would be the fate of an heir committed to such hands, and now his question is answered as plainly as though he could have visited in spirit the scene he had left in the flesh. He sees, while living, the authority he would have left to govern France fall to pieces in a panic of incapacity. His ministers are such as he has made them. They were as good as the exigencies of the Imperial system would allow him to secure; and as soon as the trial comes they show that they have neither head to plan, nor hands to execute, nor heart to rule. Where are the trusted counsellors to whom the empire would turn for aid if the sovereign were suddenly removed by death? If there are none forthcoming when he is for the time removed by military necessity, and dispersed by military disaster, what chance is there that a vacant throne and an incursion of republicanism would bring their thoughts to light? The collapse which threatens the dynasty to-day would ultimately have overtaken it under any circumstances whatever.

M. Clement Duvernois' sudden appearance as a proposer of a vote of want of confidence seems to show that the Emperor had determined before the meeting of the Corps Legislatif to try what possibilities of mending his position may lie in a change of ministry. The necessary scenes in the Chamber and in the streets of Paris are sufficient evidence that General Montauban will not find his task a light one. But Montauban is very firm, and he is not very scrupulous.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

THE CITY MISSION OF THE PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH. Is now in active operation. The undersigned, General Superintendent (by appointment of the Board), who has been respectfully and earnestly urged upon members of the Church, particularly those who are people generally, the necessity of united and combined effort in the extension of the knowledge of the Gospel of Jesus Christ among the neglected portions of our community, and in providing for the relief of those in our midst who are "in trouble, sorrow, sickness, or any other adversity."

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT AN application will be made at the next meeting of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the incorporation of a Bank, in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth, to be entitled THE KEYSTONE STATE BANK, with a capital of five hundred thousand dollars, with the right to increase the same to ten million dollars.

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THE UNION FIRE EXTINGUISHER COMPANY OF PHILADELPHIA. Manufacture and sell the Improved, Portable Fire Extinguisher. Always Reliable.

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT AN application will be made at the next meeting of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the incorporation of a Bank, in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth, to be entitled THE IRON BANK, with a capital of five hundred thousand dollars, with the right to increase the same to one million dollars.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT AN application will be made at the next meeting of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the incorporation of a Bank, in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth, to be entitled THE SOUTH WALK BANKING COMPANY, with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars, with the right to increase the same to one million dollars.

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By virtue and in execution of the powers contained in a Mortgage executed by

THE CENTRAL PASSENGER RAILWAY COMPANY.

of the city of Philadelphia, bearing date the eighteenth day of April, 1867, and recorded in the office for recording deeds and mortgages for the city and county of Philadelphia, in Mortgage Book A. C. H. No. 96, page 408, etc., the undersigned Trustees named in said mortgage do hereby

WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION,

at the MERCHANTS' EXCHANGE, in the city of Philadelphia, by

MESSRS. THOMAS & SONS, Auctioneers,

at 12 o'clock M., on TUESDAY, the eighteenth day of October, A. D. 1870, the property described in and conveyed by the said mortgage, to wit:—

No. 1. All those two contiguous lots or pieces of ground, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate on the east side of Broad street, in the city of Philadelphia, one of them beginning at the distance of nineteen feet seven inches and five-eighths southward from the southeast corner of the said Broad and Coates streets; thence extending eastward at right angles with said Broad street eighty-eight feet one inch and a half to ground now or late of Samuel Miller; thence southward along said ground, and at right angles with said Coates street, seventy-two feet to the northeast corner of an alley, two feet six inches in width, leading southward into Penn street; thence westward crossing said alley and along the lot of ground hereinafter described and at right angles with said Broad street, seventy-nine feet to the east side of the said Broad street; and thence northward along the east line of said Broad street seventy-two feet to the place of beginning. Subject to a Ground Rent of \$20, silver money.

No. 2. The other of them situate at the northeast corner of the said Broad street and Penn street, containing in front or breadth on the said Broad street eighteen feet, and in length or depth eastward along the north line of said Penn street seventy-four feet and two inches, and on the line of said lot parallel with Penn street seventy-six feet five inches and three-fourths of an inch to said two feet six inches wide alley. Subject to ground rent of \$20, silver money.

No. 3. All that certain lot or piece of ground beginning at the S. E. corner of Coates street and Broad street, thence extending southward along the said Broad street nineteen feet seven inches and five-eighths of an inch; thence eastward eighty feet one inch and one-half of an inch; thence northward, at right angles with said Coates street, nine feet to the south side of Coates street, and thence westward along the south side of said Coates street ninety feet to the place of beginning.

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Together with all the streets, ways, alleys, passages, waters, water-courses, easements, franchises, rights, liberties, privileges, hereditaments and appurtenances whatsoever, unto any of the above-mentioned premises and estates belonging to, appertaining, and the reversions and remainders, rents, issues, and profits thereof, and all the estate, right, title, interest, property, claim, and demand of every nature and kind whatsoever of the said Company, as well as law as in equity of, in, and to the same and every part and parcel thereof.

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THE "ACADEMY" will sail for New Orleans direct on Tuesday, September 6, at 2 A. M. The "YACOB" will sail from New Orleans, via Havana, on Wednesday, September 13, at 2 A. M.

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